

ABAG
March/April 2002



Service Matters

THE FOOTPRINT OF SMART GROWTH



Over the next 20 years, the San Francisco Bay Area is projected to expand by more than one million residents. In face of this growth, a broad range of interests have come together to find ways of retaining—and even enhancing—the Bay Area’s unique beauty, natural resources, diversity, and lifestyle.

To meet this challenge ABAG has teamed with a broad coalition of government, business, environmental, and social equity groups to develop a smart alternative to current trends development patterns.

Since 1999 ABAG has worked with the Bay Area’s other four regional agencies (Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board) on regulatory changes and incentives needed to promote smart growth in the Bay Area. In 2000 the group joined forces with the Bay Area Alliance for Sustainable Development (a coalition of over 40 business, environmental, and social equity organizations) and their “regional livability footprint project.” *The Bay Area Smart Growth Strategy and Regional Livability Footprint Project* emerged from this coalition.

What Are We Trying to Accomplish?

Today, the project is in the midst of engaging locally elected officials and their staffs, private developers, stakeholder group representatives, and the public at large to accomplish three goals:

- **Create a smart growth land use alternative for the Bay Area** to minimize sprawl, provide adequate and affordable housing, improve mobility, protect environmental quality, and preserve open space.
- **Identify and obtain the regulatory changes and incentives** needed to implement this alternative future.
- **Develop alternative 20-year land use and transportation projections** to guide the infrastructure investments of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and other regional partners.

Public Workshops Round One – Fall 2001

As part of the Smart Growth Footprint Project, over 1,000 people last fall attended one of nine county-wide workshops. Elected officials, neighborhood group representatives, developers, environmentalists, and social equity advocates together identified the most appropriate locations in their county for future growth, the character of new development, and the regulatory changes and incentives needed to realize this vision. These exciting all-day events yielded over 100 different scenarios for smart growth in the region.

Post-workshops, planning directors and business, environmental, and social equity representatives from all nine counties then distilled these scenarios into three region-wide thematic smart growth alternatives. Each alternative encompasses the themes heard at workshops in all parts of the region and represents the breadth of diverse ideas expressed.

Three Alternatives Distilled

- 1. Central Core and Existing Transit Network Focus –** Locates most new growth in each county’s largest cities and around existing public transit stations, with emphasis on the region’s central cities.
- 2. Pedestrian and Transit-Oriented Neighborhoods and Corridors –** Generally locates growth in the same locations as #1, but at lower densities with an increment of growth spread to additional transit-rich and walkable communities and to corridors along an expanded public transit network.

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The Footprint of Smart Growth and A Welcome to Pleasant

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3. Core-to-Edge Development – Generally locates growth in the same locations as #2 but at still lower densities, with additional increment spread to edge communities. This alternative brings housing to existing employment areas and jobs to currently housing rich areas. All new edge development would be at higher densities than exists today or is currently planned.

The three alternatives are currently undergoing a more detailed analysis to show the effects of each on housing affordability, income/housing cost relationships, displacement of existing Bay Area residents and other measures of social equity, and the development feasibility of each alternative.



Smart Growth in Action: Frank Mar Apartments, San Francisco

Round 2 Workshops

April 13	Marin County	Pickleweed Park Community Center, San Rafael
April 20	Sonoma County	Steele Lane Community Center, Santa Rosa
May 4	San Francisco County	Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco, San Francisco
May 4	Santa Clara County	Mountain View Community Center, Mountain View
May 11	Contra Costa County	Shaping Our Future Program
May 11	San Mateo County	San Mateo County Expo Center, San Mateo
May 11	Solano County	Jelly Belly Candy Company, Fairfield
May 18	Alameda County	San Leandro Public Library (Main Branch), San Leandro
May 18	Napa County	Las Flores Community Center, Napa

Invitation to Second Round of Public Workshops!

This spring, government officials, stakeholder representatives, and the general public will return for a final opportunity to weigh-in on the emerging smart growth alternative for the region. The results of the analysis will be presented and workshop participants will review the alternatives and be challenged to come up with a single “preferred alternative” for smart growth in their county, focusing on how decisions in each county affect neighboring communities and quality of life throughout the Bay Area. ***Don't miss this opportunity to help guide our region's future.***

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ABAG Is 100 Strong

ABAG welcomes the **City of Pleasant Hill**

as its newest member. With the addition of the City of Pleasant Hill, ABAG's membership now consists of 100 cities and towns and nine counties.

The City of Pleasant Hill is located in central Contra Costa County bordered to the south by Walnut Creek, to the north by Martinez and Pacheco, and

located 20 miles east of San Francisco. The suburban residential community has a population of 32,837 and its primary economic base is service and retail employment.



"I am gratified that the City of Pleasant Hill has, through its City Council, decided to rejoin ABAG and extend the budding spirit of regional cooperation in the area," says Mayor David Durant. He added, "I am pleased that we are able to show through this act, our willingness to partner with neighboring jurisdictions to solve longstanding region-wide issues and problems."



Bay Area Economic Outlook Have We Hit **Bottom?**

Bay Area economic recovery is on the horizon, according to the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) Research Director Paul Fassinger. During *Focus 2002-2003: The Budget Blues—Have We Hit Bottom?* conference on January 25, ABAG economists and analysts unveiled the latest economic projections for the next two years before an audience of local elected officials, city and county budget directors, the media, and members of the business community. ABAG's forecast identified local and statewide economic development trends related to high technology, taxable sales, the housing market, commercial construction, and recession recovery.

Fassinger projected that "the Bay Area can expect to recover from the recession around the third quarter of 2002, with job growth and household income improving slightly by the end of 2002 and increasing moderately in 2003 by about 1.7 percent." He added that "recovery does not mean a return to the accelerated growth rates seen during 1997-2000. It means slower historic growth rates as seen before the dot-com boom." He also projected that the Bay Area's recovery from recession will occur at the same pace as the rest of the country. Consumer confidence which has been rebounding was identified as a critical part of the projected recovery.

ABAG Senior Regional Analyst Brian Kirking spotlighted taxable sales and real estate trends during the conference. While noting the 12 percent decline in sales growth during 2001, he indicated that there is optimism because a slight improvement has already begun in 2002 within retail and other outlets' sales. He projected a 1.7 percent increase in taxable sales during 2003. MBIA Muni Services Company Client Services Director Doug Jensen contributed additional information on the sales and use tax outlook, noting the trend toward discount retailers and new car sales because of incentives. He commented on the 1.6 percent increase in manufacturing in November, the first increase in seventeen months, indicating that the sales volume related to the semiconductor/technology/internet sector was not expected to reach 2000 heights until 2004 at the earliest. A moderate growth of 4.5 percent a year is the expectation.

Kirking also reported that most cities experienced an increase in median home sale prices, with the exception

of 18 cities located within South Bay and East Bay, when third quarter 2001 results were compared to third quarter 2000 home sales. From a County perspective all counties experienced a decrease in the number of homes sold with San Francisco County and Santa Clara County experiencing the greatest decline at 65 percent and 63 percent respectively. Commercial construction has slowed as evidenced by the number of nonresidential building permits issued and projected. Further decline is projected for 2002 and 2003. Office vacancy rates soared to 14 percent in Santa Clara County, followed by 12 percent vacancy in the East Bay and 8 percent in San Francisco.

Chief Economist Howard Roth of the California Department of Finance discussed the outlook of the state's economy and its relationship to the stock market, state finances, and national/international. Stock option income declined statewide significantly in 2001 but showed slight recovery at the beginning of January 2002. His statewide look at six high wage industries (drugs, computers, electronic components, computer services, communication equipment, and finance brokers) reflected the NASDAQ decline and link to wage and salary income and options and bonuses. This decline in capital gains and stock options and bonus revenue has had major repercussions on state general fund revenue, contributing 25 percent to the budget in 2000-2001, dropping to approximately 11 percent of revenue in 2001-2002. The good news is that a slight improvement is projected for 2002-2003.

A new conference topic, budgeting in uncertain economic times, was added to this year's economic outlook agenda. A panel of local government and agency representatives probed local government budgeting issues. Panelists included **Doug Jensen**, Client Services Director for MMC; **Bob McCleary**, Executive Director of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority; **Steve Kawa**, Deputy Chief of Staff to Mayor Willie Brown, City & County of San Francisco; **Anna Vega**, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director, Richmond; and **moderator John O'Sullivan**, Managing Director, Kelling Northcross Nobriga. Applying a bottom-up approach from current revenue to analysis of new and future businesses and the regulatory, political, and economic factors, participants explored a number of budget strategies that included

Economic Outlook cont. on pg. 4

Celebrate the Bay



All over the world people will take part in rallies, clean-ups, Earth Fairs, and public forums in April to mark Earth Day 2002 and underscore the theme ***“Protect Our Home, the Earth.”*** In the Bay Area this annual celebration will take place on **April 22, 2002**, with a special focus, *Celebrate the Bay*. As part of the protect the earth theme, the Bay Area’s Earth Day celebration emphasizes the value of the San Francisco Bay, the natural resource most closely tied to the region’s identity. Bay Area Earth Day 2002 will provide an opportunity to appreciate the value of the Bay-Delta Estuary and to articulate the current issues facing the Bay and watershed.

Celebrate the Bay

Earth Day 2002 will “Celebrate the Bay” with festivals taking place in locations along the Bay Trail and offer educational and informational programs, hiking, biking, and kayaking. Bay Area Earth Day events will also include Bay protection campaigns to protect the Bay through water quality testing, creek and beach cleanups, habitat restoration, and removal of invasive species. Volunteers will restore wetlands and riparian habitat, clean up creeks and beaches, and plant trees and native plants.

Sampling of Bay Area Events

They include the Berkeley Bay Trail Tour presented by ABAG (4/27) and Berkeley Earth Day Festival (4/20) featuring eco-art for kids, demonstrations of renewable resources, and booths from over 150 businesses, craftpeople, community organizations, food vendors, and government groups. San Francisco Explore and Restore Waterfront Wetlands (4/21), Petaluma Park Cleanup (4/20), and Baylands Restoration with Marin Audubon (4/20) offer scenic tours and information on wetland restoration. In the East Bay, El Sobrante Community Clean Up and Barbecue (4/20), the East Bay Restoration and Bird-watching presented by the Golden Gate Audubon

Society and the Oakland Port Authority (4/20), and Earth Day 2002 at the Oakland Zoo (4/20) represent the range of festivities.

In the South Bay, Palo Alto Baylands Hike (3/16) will provide hikers with information about marsh restoration from a local expert while exploring fascinating and vital habitats. The Earth Day Sunrise Ceremony (4/22) will feature dance, music, and poetry at Byxbee Park in Palo Alto. Spring in Guadalupe Gardens (4/27) offers garden tours, food, and entertainment in San Jose’s Guadalupe Park and Gardens. For more information about these events and others, visit the Bay Area Earth Day website at www.bayareaeearthday.net.

To find out how groups, agencies, and local government can participate or maximize Earth Day events to achieve support in the community, contact Jessica Nusbaum, Bay Area Earth Day Coalition Coordinator, at 650/962-9876 ext. 302 or EarthDay@Acterra.org. The Earth Day Coalition is a centralized resource center that connects organizations and events around the Bay Area with volunteers and gives media exposure to Earth Day events.

Why Protect the Bay?

The San Francisco Bay is the largest and most ecologically important estuary on the U.S. Pacific Coast. The Bay Estuary contains 90 percent of the remaining coastal wetlands in California and most of the state’s potential sites for coastal wetland restoration. The Bay’s ecosystem of fresh and salt water currently provides critical habitat for over 500 bird, fish, and wildlife species. The wetland and riparian habitat of the Bay Estuary supports 50 percent of threatened and endangered species in the Bay Area and over 70 percent of commercial and recreational fish species. San Francisco Bay is also one of the most important stops along the Pacific Flyway for migratory waterfowl.

In addition to providing valuable wildlife habitat, wetlands provide a natural system for flood control and water purification. Wetlands absorb floodwaters and help reduce erosion, saving millions of dollars in flood damages. Estuary creeks and wetlands also cleanse toxic pollutants from runoff. In fact, wetlands purify water so well that they are often used for tertiary treatment by municipal sewage plants.

The wetlands allow recreational opportunities and generally contribute to a higher quality of life for residents and the San Francisco Bay Area. San Francisco Bay wetlands and creeks are frequented by recreational fisherman, sailors and canoeists, birdwatchers, nature photographers, hikers, windsurfers, environmental educators, and their students. Whether one enjoys a view of the Bay out of a window, or windsurfs across its waves, the Bay is a part of life.

Economic Outlook cont. from pg. 3.

maximizing current revenue, building in contingencies, and crafting a cost effective multi-year program delivery.

Conducted at the beginning of each calendar year, the Economic Outlook Conference was ABAG’s fourteenth annual forecast of the short-term future of Bay Area economy. These two-year economic projections are considered critical by local government and public and private sectors for forecasting future revenue and planning budgets. ***For more information contact Paul Fassinger, Director of Research, at 510/464-7928.***

Bay Area Cities Part of Study of Dioxins in Urban Air

The California Air Resources Board started a two-year dioxin monitoring program in February to shed light on a widely debated question: how much of the toxic chemical dioxin lurks in the air, and is it harming people? This is the nation's first study to measure the pollutant in urban air. The study is being conducted in the Bay Area cities of **San Jose, Oakland, Livermore, Richmond, and Crockett**, as well as several other California communities.

Environmentalists contend oil refineries and some manufacturing industries are a significant source of dioxins which scientists say can cause cancer and birth defects. Industries say that they are a small source of the pollutant which is found around the globe in air, food and water, and humans. According to Alan Lloyd, chairman of the California Air Resources Board, "California is taking the lead in monitoring urban areas for dioxin emissions. Results from the testing will help the Board better understand the impact of dioxins on public health."

Waste Diversion In Action

San Jose is believed to be the first California City with 500,000 or more people to reach the mandated waste diversion goal mandated by 1989 legislation—diverting half its trash from landfills. Preliminary figures show 53 percent of what San Jose residents throw away (like yard trimmings, newspapers, cans, cardboard, glass, motor oil, and other items) were recycled last year rather than ending up in the landfill.

Since curbside recycling began in San Jose in 1987, two million tons of yard trimmings and 700,000 tons of papers, plastic, glass and cans have been diverted. "We collected enough newsprint to save four million trees," said Ellen Ryan, San Jose Recycling Program Director, "and recycled 132,000 tons of glass, which saved enough energy to power 32,000 homes for a year." Eleven years ago, city officials had estimated that without avid recycling, Santa Clara County's dumps would be full by 2010.

A number of smaller cities have met the goal including **Rio Vista** of Solano County with 78.5 percent and **Monte Sereno** in Santa Clara County with nearly 70 percent. The California Integrated Waste Management Board, which oversees landfills and solid waste, is currently verifying all figures.

Regionopoly: Challenges of Growth 2002

Spring General Assembly, April 25

Examining the *Challenges of Growth 2002* will be the focus of ABAG's Spring General Assembly on Thursday, April 25th, at the Palace Hotel (Sheraton Palace) in San Francisco. This conference will put a regional perspective on problems created by growth, explore the impact of growth problems on the economy, housing, the environment, and social equity, and highlight ways that local governments can meet and are meeting the challenges.

National syndicated columnist Neal Peirce, who writes on metropolitan regions, their political and economic dynamics, and their emerging national and global roles, will be the keynote speaker. Known widely as a lecturer on regional, urban, federal and community development issues, Peirce is a familiar figure before civic, business, academic, and professional groups and he will add a national perspective to the "regionopoly" discourse.

Other featured speakers and topics include state leaders Chris K. McKenzie, Executive Director of the League of California Cities (LCC) and Steven C. Szalay, Executive Director of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). They will grapple with the issues of fiscal reform and local government, assessing their impact, and present current strategies from city, county, regional, and statewide points of view. This session, *Current Condition of Local and State Government Financing*, promises to be lively and informative. Millie Greenberg, Danville Councilmember is moderating this dialogue, with Oakland City Attorney John Russo rounding out the panel.

Other panels will tackle regional challenges, proposing best practices and potential solutions. The panel discussion *Housing Our Growing Population* will highlight best practices for meeting the region's housing demand. Moderated by Duane Bay, Vice-Mayor, East Palo Alto, the panel features the expertise of Petaluma Housing Manager Bonnie Gaebler, Antioch Planning Director Victor Carniglia, and Lynette Lee, Director of the East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation. *Linking Social Equity, Housing and Economic Development* is the topic of the second morning panel. The inter-connectedness of affordable housing and economic stability is the focus, as well as the need to invest in underserved and impoverished communities. John Gioia, Contra Costa County Supervisor, moderates the panel discussion which includes James Head, Director of the National Economic Development and Law Center; Carl Guardino, President and CEO, Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group; and Sunne McPeak, Executive Director, Bay Area Council.

ABAG President Gwen Regalia, Mayor Pro Tem of Walnut Creek, encourages every city and county in the region to accept the challenge, by taking part in the discussions at the 2002 Spring General Assembly. General Assembly registration materials will be mailed in mid-March with a registration deadline of Wednesday, April 17th. Additional information and online registration is available now at www.abag.ca.gov.

The New California Dream: Regional Solutions for the 21st Century

“Regionalism and regional strategies are not new to California, but their application in a 21st century context is new, and compelling. For those committed to this 21st Century California regionalism, this report is not the end, it is the beginning.”

That is how Nick Bollman, Chair of the Speaker’s Commission on Regionalism, introduces the final report of the Speaker’s Commission on Regionalism. Issued on January 13, 2002, the report’s title proclaims its purpose: *The New California Dream—Regional Solutions for 21st Century Challenges*.

More than a year ago, then Speaker of the Assembly Robert Hertzberg proposed a Regionalism Commission, which involved 31 Californians representing government, community, business, environment and other broad based interests. ABAG Member and Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson was part of this commission. Its charge was to study and recommend new state policies that would support more effective solutions to California’s most serious immediate and long-term issues: economic competitiveness; persistent poverty and underemployment; traffic congestion and long commutes; unaffordable housing; and loss of open space and habitat, among many others. The report and the Commission’s efforts emphasize that the missing ingredient to state and local solutions is the ability to address these immediate and long-term problems at the *regional* level. It defines 21st Century challenges as interdependent, needing the regional link to bring about solutions and collaboration for effective 21st Century governance.

The Commission’s final report states that a new 21st Century regionalism is needed to regain and sustain the California dream in years to come. A new regionalism means “better policies, practices, and governmental and civic institutions that are aligned to support essential and promising regional strategies to produce world-class communities.”

Fiscal Re-vision

Three kinds of fiscal recommendations emerge in the report. To empower regions, it recommends that local finance systems be revised to neutralize the effects of fiscal consideration on urban growth policy choices. In the form of regional tax sharing, three fiscal systems are offered as potential choices or together as a combination of solutions: swap with the state a portion of the locally levied sales tax

for a larger share of the property tax; transfer all or a portion of the 1 percent locally levied sales tax to the counties; and/or establish a split property tax allocation land use category by increasing the amount of property tax that a city receives for specific land uses.

The second part of fiscal reform involves protecting local revenues and increasing the power of local governments to finance local services. One strategy offered includes amending the Constitution to protect locally levied taxes from being reallocated for state purposes.

The third part involves regional compacts, authorizing through constitutional amendment the development and adoption of a regional compact that would specify the governance and fiscal choices of the region. The report proposes development of a comprehensive regional plan on a collaborative basis involving all of a region’s communities. These adopted plans would then enable voters to approve general obligation bonds for capital purposes and to implement tax increases to pay off the bonds subject to a 55 percent voter approval. The bonds would be dedicated to specific purposes.

The economy is examined in context of how the state can have a permanent, yet dynamic economic strategy capacity aligned to support sustainable regional economies. Recommendations include creating a state cabinet-level Workforce Investment Agency and developing a regionally sensitive workforce investment policy with a focus on lifelong learning opportunities and career progression.

Schools, as centers of communities, are singled out as a critical part of regional challenges and solutions. Report recommendations focus on school siting, design, and use. Joint use and efficient use of land, materials, and energy is encouraged, “valuing schools like other public facility construction agencies.” The report recommends that school and university construction be based on one or more dedicated revenue streams and that local general plans be coordinated and consistent with school plans in siting and developing housing, transportation, parks/open space, and other public facilities.

The Commission’s report presents a road map, a policy framework with a rationale for its specific recommendations. It is not intended to be a technical document. A copy and comprehensive discussion of recommendations and analyses can be downloaded at www.regionalism.org.

Innovative County Programs and Services Awarded

Bay Area residents have diverse needs and counties are faced with the challenge of developing a variety of programs to meet all of their needs.

Recently the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) recognized the creative efforts of Bay Area counties by presenting them with annual CSAC Challenge and Merit Awards. The awards are given to recognize and encourage innovative county programs and their value as programs to be replicated in other counties. This year CSAC received 174 entries from 33 different counties. Of the 12 award winners, six were from the Bay Area.

CSAC's first place recognition Challenge Award was presented to the **San Mateo County** Board of Supervisors for their establishment of the *Citizens Academy*. The annual 12-week program is a unique opportunity for thirty residents of whom five are youth to participate in interactive sessions focused on county services, programs, responsibilities, and revenues.

Other CSAC first place Challenge Award winners included **Solano County's** *Emergency Services Cooperative program* and **Sonoma County's** *Youth Business Week* program. Solano County's *Emergency Services Cooperative* program allows the county to contract with private emergency medical service providers who operate and coordinate ambulances, and provide swift response to medical emergencies occurring in any part of the county. Sonoma County's *Youth Business Week* program teaches high school students about the world of work and the

value of business and entrepreneurship with local business, government, and education leaders providing guidance and business advice for the mock companies the students create. More than 150 students from the area's 21 high schools participate in the week-long program during their spring break. Youth Business Week was designed by a County Task Force, supported by the Youth Employment Council of the Workforce Investment Board and the Sonoma County Economic Development Board.

Merit Awards

Contra Costa County received a Merit Award for its *Educational Liaison Program* which tracks the educational progress and transition of foster children. **Marin County's** Merit Award was for their fight against *Sudden Oak Death*. Marin County developed a task force to coordinate the efforts of the local, state, federal, and university authorities to contain the disease and mobilized other coastal counties to lobby for research and funding. **Santa Clara County** received a Merit Award for their *Correctional Industries Vocational Welding Program*, which trains selected inmates housed at the Santa Clara County jail in welding techniques and metal arts. Participants receive instruction in general and equipment-specific safety training and job readiness and have the opportunity to pass welding certification exams to become state certified welders with potential for future employment.

For more information on how a county can replicate these types of programs, contact CSAC at 916/327-7500.

Alameda Wins Urban Challenge Grant

3Com Corporation announced its fourth round of Urban Challenge Grant Winners during the 70th U.S. Mayors Winter Meeting. Mayor Ralph Appezato of the City of Alameda was one of five national winners who received the \$100,000 grant in the form of 3Com systems and services to help individual cities bridge the "digital divide." The other winning cities were Albuquerque, Chicago, Dover, and New Haven. Alameda and Alameda Unified School District are teaming with 3Com to strengthen parent-teacher communications via dynamic new program called Parent Connect. Alameda will deploy an array of 3Com networking systems to enable parents across the city's 18 schools to better monitor and support their children's

education, connecting the city's 144-mile fiber optic backbone to the school district's network.

In partnership with the United States Conference of Mayors, 3Com created the Urban Challenge program for mayors and cities with a principal policy agenda aimed at enhancing educational or community development. Application guidelines include defining a specific program with tangible benefits to students, residents, and multiple project constituencies. Application deadline for the next round of grants, which are awarded on rolling basis, is April 19, 2002. Visit 3Com website for complete description, guidelines, and application at www.3com.com/solutions.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

March 2002

- 20 12 Noon
ABAG POWER Executive Committee
MetroCenter, ABAG 106B
- 21 3:30 p.m.
**Legislation & Governmental
Organization Committee**
MetroCenter, ABAG 106B
- 21 5:00 p.m.
Finance & Personnel Committee
MetroCenter, ABAG 102A
- 21 7:30 p.m.
Executive Board
MetroCenter, Auditorium

- 25& 8:00 a.m.
26 **Erosion & Sediment Control**
MetroCenter, Lobby

April 2002

- 3 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Regional Planning Committee
MetroCenter, Auditorium
- 24 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Inter-Regional Partnership
Livermore
- 25 - 8:00 am
ABAG Spring General Assembly
The Palace Hotel (Sheraton Palace)
San Francisco

Notable Numbers: Waste Facts

8%

of America's municipal waste is glass waste, with approximately 13.2 million tons of glass waste generated annually. 22% of all glass beverage containers are recycled.

5%

of household waste is plastics, with every American using an estimated 200 pounds of plastic a year. When buried, some plastic materials will last for 700 years.

30 gallons

of water on average go down the drain when an individual runs tap water while washing dishes.

5 gallons

of water on average go down the drain when an individual leaves the tap running while brushing teeth.

22 million

cars, which consume more than 13 billion gallons of gasoline, are used by California drivers.

Source: California Department of Conservation/Division of Recycling



ABAG Spring General Assembly • April 25, 2002 • 8:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.
Palace Hotel (Sheraton Palace) • San Francisco
 For more information, please call 510/464-7900 or 510/464-7947



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